

I would like to object in the strongest possible terms to any changes in rules which allow further concentration of media ownership. Changes in the rules have already sharply limited the range of viewpoints and access to news of local affairs in most markets. There is now essentially one huge, homogeneous, and redundant mass media mainstream, with a fringe spectrum of small and highly marginalized alternatives. This kind of information impoverishment is counter to the function of the fourth estate and its fundamental role in promoting free discourse of ideas in our society.

If rules are to be changed, they should be in the direction of increasing diversity of ownership, certainly not increased concentration.